

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PLEASE REFER TO THE GENERAL FAQs SECTION OF ARPA-E'S WEBSITE ([HTTP://ARPA-E.ENERGY.GOV/?Q=FAQ/GENERAL-QUESTIONS](http://arpa-e.energy.gov/?q=faq/general-questions)) FOR ANSWERS TO MANY GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT ARPA-E AND ARPA-E'S FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS FOA ONLY ARE INCLUDED BELOW. PLEASE REVIEW ALL EXISTING GENERAL FAQs AND FOA-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BEFORE SUBMITTING NEW QUESTIONS TO ARPA-E.

I. Concept Paper Phase Questions:

Q1. WHEN DO YOU EXPECT AO?

ANSWER: Final selections are expected to be made in the October 2022 timeframe. Please refer to the table on page 1 of the DE-FOA-0002692 CURIE Funding Opportunity Announcement for this and other relevant information.

Q2. I WOULD LIKE TO SEND FURTHER QUESTIONS.

ANSWER: Please refer to the DE-FOA-0002691 Curie Funding Opportunity Announcement section VII. Agency Contacts.

Q3. I HAVE A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS ABOUT CURIE.

- 1) **CAN NATIONAL LABS LEAD? OR DOES IT HAVE TO BE UNIVERSITY OR INDUSTRY AS LEAD?**
- 2) **DOES ONE HAVE TO PICK A PARTNER FROM [HTTPS://ARPA-E-FOA.ENERGY.GOV/TEAMINGPARTNERS.ASPX?](https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov/teamingpartners.aspx)**
- 3) **WHAT IS THE COST SHARE FOR AN INDUSTRY PARTNER?**

ANSWER: 1) Please refer to the general question 2.21 of the ARPA-E FAQ page located at <https://arpa-e.energy.gov/faqs/general-questions>.

2) Please refer to general question 6.20 on the FAQ page referenced above.

3) Please refer to the DE-FOA-0002692 CURIE Funding Opportunity Announcement, Section II.B, "Cost Sharing," and please also refer to general question section 4 on the FAQ page referenced above.

Q4. IS TESTING OF UNF REQUIRED FOR A SUCCESSFUL SUBMISSION?

ANSWER: Testing of actual UNF is not required for successful submission, though teams may propose such testing with UNF or appropriate surrogates. Please refer to the subsection "Scaled UNF Separation and Monitoring Testing" in Section D.1 of the DE-FOA-0002692 CURIE Funding Opportunity Announcement for more information.

Q5. PAGE 32 OF THE FOA PDF (WHICH IS LABELED PAGE 28 AT THE TOP) STATES THAT A SCHEMATIC WITH "ALL MAJOR SYSTEM COMPONENTS IDENTIFIED" IS REQUIRED, AS WELL AS A TABLE TO BE FILLED OUT. IS THIS REQUIRED AS PART OF THE CONCEPT PAPER, OR ONLY AS PART OF THE FULL PROPOSAL?

ANSWER: This information is required at the concept paper, as well as the full application stage. Applicants are required to answer this information "to the best of their ability" per the FOA language on page 32. Applicants do not have to provide this information in tabular form.

Q6. USING THE 'COST ESTIMATOR WORKBOOK' IS DIFFICULT IF IMPOSSIBLE. AFTER MAKING A COUPLE ENTRIES, A POPUP WINDOW CONTINUED TO BE DISPLAYED ASKING FOR A PASSWORD. THIS HAPPENED EVERY 15-20 SECONDS, DISRUPTING ACTIVITY, MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE ENTRIES ON THE WORKSHEET.

ANSWER: Some of the cells in the Summary, Aqueous Reprocessing Costs, and Pyro Reprocessing Costs tabs in the Cost Estimator Workbook have been locked and password-protected to preserve the workbook's functionality. The Introduction tab of the workbook provides information about which cells can be modified.

II. Full Applications Phase Questions:

Q7. I HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT THE COST SHARE REQUIREMENTS ON PAGE 36 OF THE FOA. I HAVE A PROJECT TEAM THAT INCLUDES (REDACTED**). I AM CONSIDERING ADDING A LARGE BUSINESS TO THE PROJECT TEAM.**

I RECOGNIZE THAT THE ADDITION OF A LARGE BUSINESS MEANS THAT I WILL NOT QUALIFY FOR THE 5 % COST SHARE.

THE LAST BULLET ON PAGE 36 READS:

"PROJECT TEAMS WHERE DOMESTIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, DOMESTIC NONPROFITS, SMALL BUSINESSES, AND/OR FFRDCS PERFORM GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 80% OF THE TOTAL WORK ... ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE AT LEAST 10% OF THE TOTAL PROJECT COST AS COST SHARE"

THE LIST DOES NOT INCLUDE NATIONAL LABS. DOES THIS IMPLY THAT IF I ADD A LARGE BUSINESS, THE REQUIREMENT IS THAT THE NATIONAL LAB + LARGE BUSINESS BUDGET MUST BE < 20 % IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR THE 10 % COST SHARE? OR IS THE OMISSION OF NATIONAL LABS FROM THIS BULLET POINT AN OVERSIGHT, SO THAT THE REQUIREMENT IS THAT I MUST KEEP ONLY THE LARGE BUSINESS BUDGET BELOW 20 %?

ANSWER: ARPA-E may not provide pre-submission assessments on a project team's specific cost sharing requirement. Applicants should carefully review the cost sharing requirements for the specific FOA to which they intend to submit a Concept Paper or Full Application. Please refer to the DE-FOA-0002691 CURIE Funding Opportunity Announcement, Section II.B, "Cost Sharing,"

(including Section II.B.7) and please also refer to general question section 4 on the FAQ page referenced above. When reviewing Section II.B.7., [consider whether your proposed team member is a federal agency or instrumentality, or an FFRDC.](#)

Q8. WE ARE PREPARING A FULL APPLICATION FOR CURIE DUE JULY 21ST AND DO NOT YET HAVE FEDERALLY APPROVED INDIRECT RATES FOLLOWING A RECENT MERGER AND RE-ORGANIZATION ACTIVITY.

DO WE NEED TO INCLUDE WITH OUR FULL APPLICATION THE FULLY POPULATED “ARPA-E ICR PROPOSAL WORKBOOK – SIMPLIFIED RATE TEMPLATE” BASED ON 2023 AND BEYOND PROJECTIONS OR CAN WE SIMPLY PROVIDE WITH OUR FULL APPLICATION ESTIMATES BASED ON LEGACY RATES PREVIOUSLY USED WITH DOE AND THEN SUBMIT THIS ICR PROPOSAL WORKBOOK “WITHIN 2 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING AN AWARD NOTIFICATION” PER THE INSTRUCTIONS IN THE 424 BUDGET WORKBOOK. THE GUIDANCE IS A BIT AMBIGUOUS TO US.

ANSWER: You can provide your rates based on estimates on legacy rates previously used with DOE. Those rates will be negotiated as necessary, prior to award.

Q9. PER THE FOA, “APPLICANTS MAY CHOOSE TO NOT INCLUDE TT&O ACTIVITIES IF APPROPRIATE, AND DO NOT NEED A WAIVER TO DO SO”. HOWEVER, UNDER TAB H. OTHER IN THE SF 424A BUDGET WORKBOOK, THERE SEEMS TO BE CONFLICTING LANGUAGE AND THAT THE APPLICANT WOULD NEED TO SUBMIT A WAIVER IF NOT INCLUDING:

Applicants may choose to not include TT&O activities if appropriate, and do not need a waiver to do so. If applicants do decide to include TT&O, all budget activities must relate to achieving specific objectives, as defined in the Statement of Project Objectives. Applicants must list TT&O costs with a clear description of what activities are to take place (e.g. travel to the Annual ARPA-E Innovation Summit, work devoted to a commercialization effort for a specific technology funded by ARPA-E will be allowed, if the costs are allowable in accordance with Federal cost principles. For TT&O activities aimed at advancing a portfolio of technologies and/or commercialization efforts, only the portion of costs specifically attributable to advancing the ARPA-E funded technology will be reimbursed. Applicants are required to certify in the Full Application that they have met the 5% requirement on Technology Transfer and Outreach (TT&O) activities. Applicants may request a waiver of this requirement in whole or in part. Justification unless they submit an accompanying waiver request. Applicants may seek a waiver of the TT&O requirement in whole or in part by including an explicit request in their Full Application. In their Full Application, Applicants must describe in detail why the TT&O requirement should not be waived based on the technology’s stage of development (i.e., early-stage or late-stage) with reference to Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs). In addition, Applicants must describe in detail why the TT&O requirement should not be waived why they are proposing less than the required 5%.

In the Business Assurances and Disclosures form, number 6, also make it seem that that the 5% TTO is required and if not, a waiver does need to be submitted. Is this 5% amongst the whole project team and total project costs or 5% per applicant, subaward, company, etc?

(6) WAIVER REQUEST – TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND OUTREACH COSTS (see Section IV.G.8 of the FOA): Optional. No page limit. ARPA-E requires Applicants to spend at least 5% of ARPA-E funding on Technology Transfer and Outreach (TT&O) activities. Applicants may request a waiver of this requirement in whole or in part. If the Applicant is seeking a waiver, please provide the information in the table below. If the Applicant is not seeking a waiver, check the box marked “Not Applicable” below.

If NOT APPLICABLE, check here

| | |
|---|--|
| Proposed % to Be Spent on TT&O Activities: | |
| Rationale for Waiver Request : | |

ANSWER: TT&O is not required.



Q10. HOW WE ARE SUPPOSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE ARPA-E PROJECT (DE-FOA-002691)? WE DID NOT FIND ANY MENTION OF HOW TO DO THIS IN THE FOA OR ON THE ARPA-E SUBMISSION WEBSITE.

ANSWER: Acknowledgment of Advisory Board Members is not a requirement under the FOA. However, if you choose to acknowledge them, do so in the Project Team Members section.